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ABSTRACT

Volume three, number 1 of the Newsletter of the Language by Radio Interest Group contains two articles dealing with the use of radio in language instruction. An article by R. E. Wood describes the meeting of this interest group on Nov. 30, 1974 at the ACTFL Annual Meeting, at which the topic of discussion was the use of radio in language instruction. A second article by the same author reports on a new worldwide broadcast of Deutsche Welle. Number 2 includes an article by D. S. Zesiger on a Spanish-language radio program run by language students in Logan, Ohio. K. Bruegging describes Project Interface at the University of Kansas, whereby taped recordings may be listened to by telephone. J. Miles describes a French-language radio program at Wheaton College, Illinois, with a varied format. Number 3 reports on "Talking Sticks," an interdisciplinary radio seminar on the cultural heritage of African countries as seen by writers, a program at Iowa State conducted by C. Bruner and D. Bruner. All three numbers also contain bibliographical entries related to language instruction. (AM)

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L B R I G Newsletter
(Newsletter of the
Language by Radio Interest Group)

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Vol. III - Number 1

December, 1974

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Purdue University
Robert J. Nelson, Dept. of French, University of Illinois
Sandra J. Savignon, Dept. of French, University of Illinois
Philip D. Smith, Jr., Dept. of Foreign Languages, West
Chester (Pa.) State College

This first issue of the 1974-5 school year comes much later than we had originally planned. For this, we apologize as we forward a report on the ACTFL session on the use of radio in language teaching which took place in Denver on November 30, 1974, along with some most valuable information for teachers of German.

Readers whose supply of envelopes for receiving this newsletter has been exhausted with the mailing of this issue will find a statement to that effect in their envelopes. They will also find a request for some reader reaction, the most favorable of which would be, of course, the mailing of a new set of envelopes.

If you or a friend would like to receive LBRIG Newsletter send up to five self-addressed and stamped legal size envelopes to:

FL 006864

Prof. Robert J. Nelson
Department of French
2090 Foreign Languages Bldg.
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL 61801

International reply coupons or loose foreign stamps are acceptable if U.S. stamps are not available.

News items, short articles, information, opinions and most anything else our readers may care to send for inclusion in the newsletter will be warmly welcomed. Send it now (same address as above).

LBRIG TO CHANGE MANAGING EDITORS

A friend of ours who bears responsibility for a number of agricultural extension programs told us that the best way to keep a newsletter alive and vibrant is to change its editor every so often. We agree. That is why we decided that the time had come to seek other hands to manage this newsletter which, over the past two years, has gained in readership from nineteen to about 200. Our search produced a highly capable volunteer in the person of Professor Robert J. Nelson, Department of French, University of Illinois-Urbana. Professor Nelson is a widely known scholar with a specialization in 17th Century French Literature who has had extensive

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experience with the use of radio in the teaching of foreign languages. It was his idea to get his University to use a telephone hookup which permits freshly recorded French newscasts to be transmitted to anyone dialing 217-333-6301. He has published widely and his writings include an ERIC/FOCUS (#11) report on the use of radio for language teaching which is soon to be updated. We are honored and privileged to turn over the management of this newsletter to so able a person as Professor Nelson.

FEATURE ARTICLE

LANGUAGE TEACHERS FOCUS ON SHORTWAVE MEDIUM

Richard E. Wood, Adelphi University

The Grand Ballroom of the Denver Hilton was the scene for the presentation, on November 30, of "Radio in Foreign Language Teaching," at the joint Annual Meeting of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, American Association of Teachers of French, and American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese.

The session, attended by well over one hundred professors in the field of language instruction from all parts of the United States, at high school, college and university levels, was the culmination of three years' activities of the Language by Radio Interest Group, an affiliate of ACTFL. The session was chaired by Alan Garfinkel of Purdue University, whose Ph.D. dissertation focused on the creation of radio programs as a Spanish teaching technique.

There were four speakers, representing both high school and university levels and several languages of specialization.

Philip D. Smith, Chairman of the Department of Foreign Languages at West Chester State College, Pennsylvania, offered an illustrated slide presentation outlining the prime requirements in the selection, purchase, operation and maintenance of an adequate shortwave receiver. He emphasized the importance of avoiding gimmicks, unnecessary bands, fancy but useless controls, multiple but unconnected transistors, and other features which simply distract the user of shortwave equipment from the major international broadcast bands and the two basics of selectivity and sensitivity. Smith emphasized that the basics of shortwave broadcast technology have not changed for thirty years. Half the panel members themselves use receiving equipment dating from the 1940's. Not only does it have a lifetime of use, but a substantial, careful investment will procure a receiver with high resale value. Smith displayed slides of band surveys, equipment catalogs, and some popular receivers.

The second speaker, Richard Schwartz of Dover, Delaware High School, spoke on the role of shortwave radio as an educational technique. The language is authentic, the message direct and immediate, the content of news broadcasts already largely familiar to the alert student, thus enabling him to work on the linguistic medium in which the news is presented, the target language. He illustrated this with a recording of the Deutsche Welle news and interval signal.

Richard E. Wood, Chairman of the Department of Languages and International Studies at Adelphi University, Garden City, New York, then spoke

on the choice of frequencies and listening times for different languages, with especial attention to French, Spanish, German and Russian. He distributed a handout giving times and frequencies for these as well as other languages.

Thanks to excellent cooperation received from Radio Australia, Belgian Radio and TV, Radio RSA (The Voice of South Africa), Radio Moscow and Radio Sweden, language-by-radio books and program schedules were distributed free to dozens of teachers in attendance, though the size of the audience was even greater than had been planned. Expressions of interest and support were also received from other stations. Radio Prague's Director, Ing. Otto Adrian, explained that "Czech by Radio" was not running at present due to the high sunspot count and the irregularity of reception across the Atlantic. For a language lesson, clear reception is a necessity. Radio Moscow responded similarly, that its "Russian by Radio" was beamed to British listeners but not this year to North America.

Dr. Wood discussed the French programs available from France, Canada, Tahiti and the Voice of America, and the massive new international network of the Deutsche Welle, providing added opportunities to learn German by radio. He explained the reasons for the use of different frequencies at different times and seasons. His handout gave details of the main resource in the field, the World Radio and TV Handbook, the Shortwave Listening section which he edits in Communications Handbook, the SWL and DX clubs, and free schedules available from all international stations.

The concluding speaker was Dr. Robert J. Nelson of the University of Illinois, Urbana, an experienced writer in the field of radio and language. He described the successfully operating system of twelve telephone lines which provide 24 hour access, for the price of a long-distance call, to a French-language ORTF broadcast from Paris recorded off shortwave fresh every day. This widely popular initiative has attracted national interest. There are few native Franco-Americans in central Illinois, but calls come, late at night when rates are cheap, from Chicago and all over the country from those who lack the time, money or inclination to install a shortwave receiver for themselves.

Dr. Nelson played a cassette recording of one of his ORTF newscasts, and conducted a quick poll on its intelligibility. It was noticeable that the panel members -- experienced shortwave listeners -- gave it a higher readability rating than most of the audience. The speech clipping on the telephone lines carrying the Illinois recorded news service improves voice intelligibility.

Much of the discussion and audience interest centered on the teaching of French language and culture since the American Association of Teachers of French was holding its convention concurrently with ACTFL in the Hilton. Dr. Richard Wood of Adelphi, introduced the following resolution which was accepted by acclamation for transmission to ACTFL headquarters:

RESOLUTION

"The members of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, the American Association of Teachers of French, and other professionals in the field of the teaching of French, other languages, culture, civilization,

and international studies, assembled in Denver, Colorado, in a session devoted to Using Radio in foreign language teaching,

NOTE with concern the announced intention of the Office de Radiodiffusion-Télévision Française, Paris, to undertake a radical curtailment of its international short wave broadcast service, including a total abolition of English, Spanish and most other language programs,

POINT OUT that such a retrograde and incomprehensible act will remove France from the ranks of the world's nations communicating their national message to foreign listeners by shortwave radio,

EMPHASIZE that such an act will reduce France to a position of extreme weakness in the field of world communications and one without any parallel among the nations of the European continent, and

NOTE that the sharp decline in the study of French language and culture in recent years is caused, in part, by misunderstandings and lack of communication to which the ORTF's proposed action will further contribute.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that these members of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, and the American Association of Teachers of French, urge the ORTF that it rescind its plans for withdrawal from short-wave broadcasting; that it introduce a full-scale broadcast service in English and French for listeners in the United States; and that it make full use of the powerful shortwave medium in the instruction of the French language and culture."

This is an expanding field. There is a bibliography of some forty items already. These, and a summary of the state of the art will be contained in a forthcoming publication of ERIC (the Educational Resources Information Center) and MLA (the Modern Language Association), to be co-authored by Robert J. Nelson and Richard E. Wood.

The Language by Radio Interest Group, which now has over 300 members, is open to all who send a stock of self-addressed envelopes to the managing editor, Robert J. Nelson, University of Illinois Department of French, Foreign Languages Building 2090, Urbana, IL 61801. Smaller interest groups could also be formed within the Associations of Teachers of French, German, Italian, etc.

Radio in the language classroom and laboratory was again the topic of a talk by Richard E. Wood at the meeting of the National Association of Language Laboratory Directors held concurrently with the Modern Language Association annual meeting. The session was held December 27 in the Americana Hotel, New York.

ERC FRENCH PROJECT INCLUDES RADIO CONTENT

James R. Willard, Coordinator of The French Project of The Educational Research Council of America, has announced that the ERC is about to publish some materials for teaching French which include recorded radio broadcasts. The units are each one-half hour in length. A booklet accompanies the recordings and the tapes focus on cultural features. Further information is

available from James R. Willard, French Project Coordinator, Educational Research Council of America, Rockefeller Building, Cleveland Ohio 44113. (Telephone: 216-696-8222).

BIG CHANGES AT DEUTSCHE WELLE Richard E. Wood, Adelphi University

Effective November, 1974, the voice of Germany inaugurated a totally new worldwide broadcast schedule.

At the time it brought into use a cable network linking its worldwide transmitter complex, which includes high-powered and super-powered outlets at Julich and the Wertachtal, West Germany; Sines, Portugal; Malta; Kigali, Rwanda; Sackville, New Brunswick; and a projected station at Antigua, British West Indies.

The duration of the main German transmissions was increased from 2 hours 15 minutes to 3 hours 50 minutes. North America is served by the transmitters in Germany, Canada, Rwanda and Malta. Listeners here will not generally be able to tell whether they are listening to Malta or to Germany, since there is no longer the "relay sound" noted when off-the-air programs are re-broadcast.

The enormous power of the worldwide network makes Deutsche Welle audible, in many languages, almost all day long, especially in the Eastern States. Programs beamed specifically to the USA and Canada, however, are now as follows:

GERMAN

<u>Eastern</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>Pacific</u>	<u>Frequencies (KHz)</u>
8:30-8:50 A.M.	7:30-7:50 A.M.	5:30-5:50 A.M.	11905 (25mb) 15245 (19mb)
5:00-8:50 P.M.	4:00-7:50 P.M.	2:00-5:50 P.M.	6145 (49mb) 9700 (31mb) 11765 (25mb) 11925 (25mb) 15410 (19mb)
9:00-12:50 A.M.	8:00-11:50 P.M.	6:00-9:50 P.M.	6085 (49mb) 6145 (49mb)
9:05-11:00 P.M.	8:05-10:00 P.M.	6:05-8:00 P.M.	9745 (31mb)
9:05-11:30 P.M.	8:05-10:30 P.M.	6:05-8:30 P.M.	6100 (49mb) 11865 (25mb)

ENGLISH

8:00-9:05 P.M.	7:00-8:05 P.M.	5:00-6:05 P.M.	6010 (49mb) 6040 (49mb) 9565 (31mb)
8:15-9:05 P.M.	7:15-8:05 P.M.	5:15-6:05 P.M.	9690 (31mb) 6100 (49mb) 9745 (31mb) 11865 (25mb)

10:00-10:50 P.M.	9:00-9:50 P.M.	7:00-7:50 P.M.	6040 (49mb)
			6075 (49mb)
			6185 (49mb)
			9545 (31mb)
11:45-12:50 A.M.	10:45-11:50 P.M.	8:45-9:50	6075 (49mb)
			6185 (49mb)
			9545 (31mb)

WOOD SERIES IDENTIFIES LANGUAGES FOR RADIO LISTENERS

Richard E. Wood, Adelphi University, began a five-week radio series on "The Identification of Languages Heard on Radio" last October. The series was broadcast on the shortwave service of Radio Canada International.

MAKESHIFT ANTENNA SUGGESTED

Philip D. Smith, Jr.'s presentation at the recent ACTFL convention session on the use of radio in language teaching included an interesting suggestion for those in need of a makeshift antenna. Smith suggested attaching a lead from the antenna terminals of the radio to the fingerstop on the dial of a telephone. We don't know how well it works in various parts of the country but perhaps our readers will report on its value.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Disick, Renée S. Individualizing Language Instruction: Strategies and Methods. New York: Harcourt Brace and Jovanovich, 1975.

Philip D. Smith, Jr.'s notes on receiving foreign radio programs ("Foreign Radio Stations for Real Language - Where and When"), which originally appeared in this newsletter and were reprinted by the Language Association Bulletin of New York, were treated as an appendix to this most readable and highly practical methods book. Readers will want it for their professional libraries at the earliest possible moment.

LBRIQ NEWSLETTER is sponsored by the Purdue University Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures

L B R I G Newsletter

(The Trimestrial Publication
of the
LANGUAGE BY RADIO INTEREST GROUP

Vol. III - Number 2

April 1975

Editors: Alan Garfinkel, Dept. of Modern Languages, Purdue U.
Robert J. Nelson, Dept. of French, University of Illinois
Sandra J. Savignon, Dept. of French, University of Illinois
Philip D. Smith, Jr., Center for Foreign Language Research
and Services, West Chester, Pennsylvania

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"Seconds"

This issue brings the second Managing Editor, and news of the second workshop on Radio in FL Education at an ACTFL Convention - the 1975 meeting in Washington, D.C., November 28-30. As the new Managing Editor, I only hope that I can do as good a job "seconding" the interests and needs of our subscribers as your first, Alan Garfinkel. We are indebted to Alan not only for the superb job he did while in the post but also for his initiative in conceiving both LBRIG and its Newsletter. Our best wishes to Alan as he continues his commitments to radio and other electronic media in FL Education - and our gratitude to him for continuing to serve on the Board of Editors plus our fervent hopes that he will continue to stimulate us with his "electrifying" leadership.

Subscription: Under Alan's leadership subscribers grew from an initial nineteen to over 300. This growth is, of course, due not only to Alan's initiatives but to the word of mouth - and of "ear!" - of you, our subscribers. We hope you will continue to spread the word about the spoken words of radio, especially short-wave radio. As you know, anyone interested has only to send five self-addressed and stamped legal-size envelopes to:

Professor Robert J. Nelson
Department of French (2090 FLB)
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL 61801

International reply coupons or loose foreign stamps are also acceptable. You might want to publish the availability of LBRIG Newsletter on these inexpensive terms in your local or regional FL Association's journal, newsletter, review, etc.

"Inexpensive," to the subscribers, of course - which leads us to express our sincere thanks first to Purdue University Department of Modern Languages for absorbing the costs of preparation and mailing of the Newsletter itself and now to the Department of French at the University of Illinois for absorbing these costs.

Naturally, we hope that all who read the Newsletter will send us news items, short article information, opinions and bibliographical notices on radio and radio-related matters.

Bob Nelson

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FEATURE ARTICLES

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"La Tertulia" over WLGW, Logan Ohio"

Delores S. Zesiger, Logan High School

During a session on "motivation" at the OMLTA annual meeting last Spring, we concluded that a radio program done by language students could be an excellent motivational tool. I liked the idea and began analyzing how to shape and adapt it to our particular situation in Logan, Ohio. My Spanish students favored the idea and offered suggestions. We then approached Steve Kurtz, program director for WLGW (98.3 FM). Kurtz too thought "the idea sounded like a good one" and if we felt there was a listening audience "that was good enough for them" at the station.

Kurtz and I then established operational procedures. We would have to rely on English in order to maintain a broad listening base. The show would be taped and done with a complete script as our broadcasters were novices. Air time would be after nine o'clock as that was the best time for mistakes and trial programs. Records for the program would come from my personal collection as the station had little to offer in Spanish music.

Meetings with Kurtz and members of our Spanish Club eventually created La Tertulia, a fifteen minute program "dedicated to brotherhood, the Spanish world - its peoples and cultures." It was aired at 9:30 P.M. on Mondays beginning last November and continuing through January, 1975.

These first shows relied upon the efforts of the two co-hosts who prepared them. They were to select a topic they could discuss for five to seven minutes as the "meat" of the show. To that they added a couple of songs, a three minute Spanish lesson, and perhaps a recipe or sports segment of two to three minutes. The hosts were different each week as were their topics: Los Mocedades, Spanish

cooking, exchange students in El Salvador, Christmas in the Spanish world, etc.

In January the snows and flu bugs slowed our production and we began to falter. We went off the air planning to seek suggestions and revamp our format accordingly. Among the main complaints were: the hour (too late and conflicted with Monday Night Football), not enough publicity (people forgot to listen), too much talk and too little music (entertainment preferred to enlightenment), too stiff (students reading scripts lost all spontaneity), and too impersonal (listeners not actively involved).

In March we returned to WLGW, but with changes. We now air for twenty minutes on Wednesdays at 9:00 P.M. Our return was heralded in the local paper and we sent letters and posters to most schools in the seventy-mile listening radius announcing our programs and inviting their participation. We also plan to do thirty second promos advertising the show throughout the day. Instead of using different hosts every week who have to prepare full scripts, we now use note cards and well planned questions prepared by two competent students who alternately host the program. They welcome listeners, outline the show, introduce guests, and smoothly go from music to guest to music throughout the evening. Each show now has a musical theme which consumes nine to twelve minutes. Between the records the host visits two or three minutes with his guests. The short talk periods maintain audience attention and lessen the speaker's tension. The regular interspersing of music lends a seemingly faster pace than that of earlier shows.

Our guests are students who present topics they have researched such as an Hispanic country, recipes, slang, idioms, a sport, special event, or holiday. When possible we invite someone from the community or nearby Ohio University to share with us their travel experiences or other knowledge of the Spanish world.

Our achievements with the program have been varied. It has offered direct involvement to students. Such involvement nurtures interest which in turn produces further involvement. It offers the public a favorable look into one of our academic programs. It has given our students a special pride and a new awareness as Spanish reaches beyond the classroom to touch the reality of their home and personal lives.

It is too early to determine our future. If our Spring schedule is successful, we would like to continue the show next year perhaps at a new time slot and in a longer version. We would like to be an active force in promoting language learning in Southeast Ohio and become a real public forum for the languages in our area of the state.

Shortwave Radio at University of Kansas

Kathy Bruegging, Assistant Instructor (French), U of Kansas,
(Lawrence)

Seeking to further its commitment of service to its students as well as to the community-at-large, the University of Kansas has inaugurated Project Interface, an experimental program which enables anyone with access to a telephone to receive short wave news broadcasts in French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese, and Russian. Our receiver is a Drake SPR-4.

In mid-February the university's language laboratory installed on a trial basis six tape decks which may be reached 24 hours a day by dialing direct. Each deck carries a five to ten-minute tape that begins as soon as anyone calls a number assigned to one of the six languages. Regardless of when the caller hangs up, the tape plays all the way through, then it disconnects and rewinds automatically. Each phone line costs \$40.00 to install and \$10.00 a month to maintain.

Broadcast sources for the service are Radio Havana, Deutch Welle, Radio Canada and Voice of America broadcasts in Portuguese, Russian and Chinese. Representatives from each of the language departments aid in editing the tapes which are usually changed twice a week. It is hoped that program changes will eventually be stepped up to once a day.

Student and faculty response to the project has been very favorable. As of April 1 counters mounted on the tape decks have registered a total of 4,932 calls, including some long-distance calls from Wichita and Topeka, Kansas. As the quality of the tapes becomes more regularized, the French department will utilize the service to a greater degree in its conversation classes. Professor Bryant Freeman, department chairman, plans to integrate the program into his course on the contemporary French press in the fall.

In the Chinese department, students in Professor Joesph Kuo's fourth semester Chinese class study copies of the broadcast tape in the classroom under the guidance of a teaching assistant while more advanced students use the telephone service directly.

Like every new venture of this kind, there are still some "bugs" due to the fact that, here in Kansas, we are only on the fringe of reception for broadcasts beamed to other parts of the world and the fact that university zoning restrictions do not permit us to mount our antenna (a Mosely SWL-7) above the two-story roof-line complicates this problem further. However, we are expecting relief on this zoning matter in the near future. In the meantime, reception is good enough even now to encourage us to continue and to look to an expansion of our service. We hope our

experience encourages others along similar lines.

The telephone numbers for the service are: Chinese (916) 864-3003; German (916) 864-3034; French (916) 864-3055; Portuguese (916) 864-3219; Spanish (916) 864-3218; and Russian (916) 864-3241.

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ICI LA BANLIEUE

John Miles, Assistant Professor of French

Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois

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"Positive presence"--a slogan for Foreign Languages departments. We have to gain attention and provoke interest as well as provide information to our majors and to our sometimes reluctant debutants fulfilling the language requirement. One of several efforts at being visible--or rather audible--at Wheaton College, Illinois, is a projected radio program in French, to be broadcast on the college station, WETN (FM 88.1).

Although Wheaton is a small liberal arts college (2000 students), we are blessed with native speakers in a wide spectrum of languages, including French. These native speakers, backed by really proficient majors, will take responsibility for various parts of the program. They will also provide the essential high standard of language performance, for, although the aim of the program is not language teaching as such, it is felt that there can be no substitute for authenticity. At the same time some allowance will be made (in speed, vocabulary, etc.) for our expected audience.

We hope that students other than our own will be among our regular listeners. The high-schools of the area, where our students do their practice-teaching, will all be made aware of our program and its aims. The power of the station is limited (10 watts FM) so that the area of coverage lies basically within a two mile radius. Further coverage will be obtained through program exchange with area colleges with higher power.

The format adopted is a varied one, thanks to the input of French majors and classes. Each program will include the following: a brief journal parlé, an up-to-date review of current events of the French-speaking world (the last thing written and taped); a coherent musical selection, with commentary on the artist and his music; a feuilleton, a serialized dramatization of a French novel. Interviews with French-speaking visitors or Chicago residents, discussions, culinary and cultural notes, illustrated talks on less well-known areas of the French-speaking world, will round out the half-hour presentation.

Reaction to the proposed program has been very positive, both within the department and at the radio station. We are looking forward to beginning the broadcast in April, and hope for the same kind of success that has greeted other innovations here.

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LBRIQ Bibliography

Richard E. Wood, Associate Professor of Spanish, Chairman,
Modern Languages, Adelphi University

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Hutchins, John A., "Use and Frequency of Occurrence of Verb Forms in Spoken Brazilian Portuguese," Hispania, LVIII, No. 1 (March, 1975), 59-67.

Hutchins makes novel use of amateur radio for the gathering of a corpus of spoken informal language for linguistic analysis. Hutchins taped and analyzed hundreds of amateur two-way communication between Brazilians resident in the U.S. and in Brazil. Since such transmissions are in the public domain they can be monitored and recorded without permission or notification. Hutchins suggests that ham radio offers the unique feature of rather natural conversation with no mixture of voices, crosstalk or simultaneous conversation by two or more parties; when one transmits, the other is silent. Identities and locations for all operators can be obtained from standard references. The medium may thus be superior to surreptitious recording of fact-to-face conversation, to interview elicitation, or other linguistic fieldwork techniques.

* * * *

Workshop on Radio in Foreign Language Education at annual convention of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, Washington Hilton Hotel, Washington, D.C., November 28-30, 1975.

The workshop will be co-chaired by Richard Wood and R. J. Nelson. Plans are still in the making, but we would appreciate recommendation from Newsletter readers that will enable us to make this Workshop as successful as the one at Denver last November. If conditions permit we are hoping to demonstrate shortwave reception "live" but we are counting even more on the "lively" participation of attendees - including, we hope, many of the subscribers to the Newsletter.

Bob Nelson

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Sandra J. Savignon, Dept. of French, University of Illinois
Philip D. Smith, Jr., Center for Foreign Language
Research and Services, West Chester, Pennsylvania

As the current academic year comes to a close we close out Volume III of the Newsletter with a brief number containing one "upbeat" item - an interesting local program at Iowa State on African Literature - and one "downbeat" item - the "silencing" of French Broadcasts to this hemisphere. We hope our subscribers will do all they can to restore "Radio France" to the "upbeat" along the lines we recommend below.

Upbeat: This past year, at Iowa State University (Ames, Iowa) Professor Charlotte Bruner of the Department of Foreign Languages and Professor David Bruner of the Department of English conducted an interesting "interdisciplinary" radio-seminar on the cultural heritage of several African countries - traditions, ways of life, changes - as seen through the eyes of creative writers, French and English. Called "Talking Sticks", the program was broadcast, beginning in October 1974, on Sundays at 10:30 A.M. over WOI-640 and Tuesdays at 7:30 P.M. over WOI-FM. The title of the series refers to the staff of office of the Okyeame, or Chief's Linguist, and among the "talking sticks" heard of were Bernard Dadié, Sembène Ousmane, Wole Soyinka, Efua Sutherland, Bessie Head and Cosmo Pieterse.

Thirty-nine in all, copies of the broadcasts are available on tape through the Media Resources Center, 121 Pearson Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50010. Orders should indicate format desired: either 1/4" full-track recording at 7.5 IPS (\$6.00) or cassette (\$4.50). The Professors Bruner would also welcome inquiries concerning the series.

Downbeat (with an upbeat recommendation for Newsletter readers) As many of you know, Radio-France (formerly ORTF), the French broadcasting service, cut its shortwave broadcasts directed to this hemisphere at the beginning of 1975. As you also know, the 1974 Denver ACTFL Workshop on Radio in FL Education served as a

springboard for an appeal by ACTFL to the French Government to restore these broadcasts. Thus far, the restoration has not been made. It is possible still to receive broadcasts (15,165 kHz) beamed by "Radio-France" to the African continent, but the quality of reception is uneven and the range of interest too foreshortened as those of us at the University of Illinois can testify as we have tried to continue our "French Newslines." Continued appeal to the French Broadcasting System is in order. We therefore urge you - whatever your language (tout se tient!) - to write to the French Government, appealing for the restoration of this service, underlining for the French Government that this is one case where centime-wise is franc-foolish. We think the best focus for such an appeal is to the French Cultural Services, 972 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10021.

Thank you for your cooperation and have a good summer, with much happy listening.

Bob Nelson
Managing Editor

PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO SEND STAMPED SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPES
IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE LBRIG NEWSLETTER!